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SECURITY INFORMATION

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German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract of

PHOTOCHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN THE GDR (German; 7 pp; undated)

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This 7-page typewritten document relates the development of the photographic industry in Germany from the time of the invention of photo material sensitive to light in 1854 until the present time. Agfa/Wolfen, now SAG (Soviet Corporation) Film Factory Wolfen, is considered as most instrumental in this development.

At present, SAG Wolfen manufactures rolls of films in the sizes $4\frac{1}{2} \times 6$, 6×9 , and $6\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ in the following degrees of sensitivity: Isochrom = 18/10 Din (German Industrial Standards), Isopan-fine grain = 17/10 Din and Isopan-Super-Special (ISS) = 21/10 Din. These films are reeled on wooden and metal rolls for export purposes. The production of this film is very high and it is an important export item. Domestic purchases of film can be made through HO stores. Furthermore, five different types of film size 24×36 mm for small cameras are available.

The output of the photochemical industry in the GDR would have to be increased three-fold in order to adequately cover the demands of all the People's Republics. SAG Wolfen is not in a position to do this. The Government is considering expanding other plants; Kodak, Berlin-Koepnick, in particular is under consideration.

SAG Wolfen also produces special film such as Printon and Autolith film, infra-red film material, and x-Ray film. By the second half of 1952, they expect to begin manufacturing X-Ray emulsion of safety film.

Much experimentation is being done with color film. At present, most of it is destined for export and very little is available for domestic use. The GDR movie company DEFA will produce color movies in 1952.

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However, in order to keep the photochemical industry at full production, all steps must be taken to keep it supplied with the necessary chemicals such as acetone and camphor.

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